

# MIND-MAPPING WITH GRAPHOLITE

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LBSC642 Fall 2012

<http://lpsc642.ahnjune.com/>

## WHAT IS GRAPHOLITE?

Grapholite is an online mapping tool that provides templates and tools for various types of diagrams. You can make an account for free to easily access your work. Though it is not necessary to create an account, having an account makes it possible to sign in from different locations to retrieve your map.

This resource will provide instruction for how to use Grapholite as brainstorming tool for a 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies class.

## WHY GRAPHOLITE?

- **Neat presentation** – topic separation is clear and notes are legible
- **Easy to reference** – whether the chart is referenced on a computer or printout, students can easily refer back to their ideas and resources they found
- **Interface** – The Grapholite interface is similar to interfaces like paint and Microsoft word. Students may already be familiar with these interfaces and if not, they will learn skills that are transferrable to these other technologies

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## SETTING AND MATERIALS

**Location:** School Computer Lab

### Materials:

- One computer for each student. Students can also share computers and take turns researching.
- Each student needs an email address to create an account. An account is not need to use grapholite, but it is needed to access your images later.
- Printer (optional)
- Projector to show demos and examples

## ASSIGNMENT

**Larger Project:** Complete a research paper on a landmark in the state of Maryland.

**Current Assignment:** Students have already picked the landmark they will be researching but this is the first time the class is in the computer lab to research their topics. The current assignment is to break their topic into subtopics and find important information and resources on their landmark.

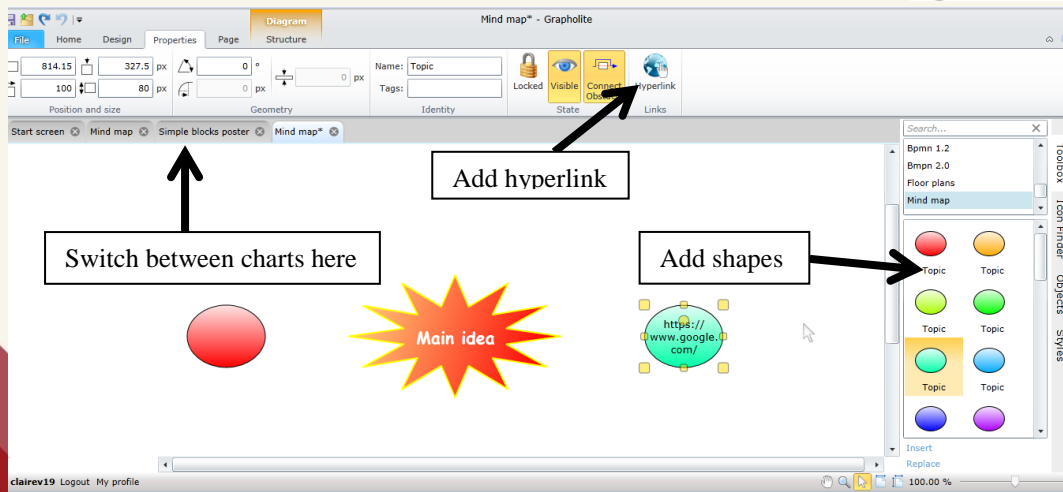
Time: 45 minutes

## PROCEDURE

1. Teachers should review lesson with students on keyword searching and best practices for using databases and search engines.
2. Teacher should explain that the class will be using Grapholite to organize their ideas and keep track of resources.
3. Each student should sign in to Grapholite and create an account if they have an email address. If they do not have an email address, they should print their map at the end.
4. Teacher should explain how to add shapes, change colors, and add text and links to shapes
5. Before students begin researching, they should create their main idea with what they think main topics should be.
6. As students research, they should add further ideas to their map along with links to the resources they find or pictures that help illustrate their ideas.

### Grapholite Log-in Instructions

1. Go to <http://grapholite.com/>
  2. Click "Try now" in the upper left hand corner
  3. Click "Register" and enter email, username, and password
  4. Whenever prompted, click "Free Account"
  5. Select "New Diagram" on the left and the "Mind Map" Option
  6. If you want ideas on shapes, you can also open the Samples > General > Mind Map
7. As students research, they should add further ideas to their map along with links to the resources they find or pictures that help illustrate their ideas. Student should also be encouraged to use different types of elements in Grapholite to express their ideas like the post-it note image or the thought bubble:



8. When students are finished, teacher should instruct students to save their mind map. Students can print the map for later reference or log back in to Grapholite to access their work.